GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1530
ANSWERED ON:14.03.2005
USE OF TOXIC CHEMICAL FOR MANUFACTURING TOYS
Jha Shri Raghunath

Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government is aware about the use of toxic DEHP chemical for manufacturing toys;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the reaction of the Government thereto;

(c) whether toy manufacturers do not specify on toys ihe ingredients used in their manufacturing; and

(d) the action proposed to be taken in this regard?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS AND MINISTER OF STEEL (SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN):

(a) to (d) The item DEHP, also known as Dioctyl Phthalate Plasticizer, is used in the manufacture of Flexible PVC articles for providing required softness. As toys are also manufactured from flexible PVC, the DEHP alongwith other plasticizers can also be used in the manufacture of Flexible PVC toys. BIS specifications are available considering the permissible toxicity levels in the toys for the use of various materials.

Steps have been taken to create adequate awareness amongst the toy industry through field offices of the Small Industries Development Organisation, Ministry of Small Scale Industries for production of safe toys and meeting the norms of toxicity prescribed in the standard specifications.

Testing facilities for testing of toys as per Indian Standard Specifications and International Standard Specifications have been created at Regional Testing Centres in Delhi & Mumbai.